Amendment 0001 ONR BAA 14-010 "Computational Methods for Decision Making"

The purpose of this Amendment 0001 is to answer questions regarding ONR BAA 14-010.

Question #1: Can the principal investigator be an employee of the subcontractor? Does the principal investigator have to be an employee of the prime contractor?

Answer #1: The employment of the Principal Investigator shall be with the offeror's firm at the time of award.

Question #2: Is there a minimum (percentage) requirement on the amount of work to be performed by the prime?

Answer #2: Refer to FAR 52.215-22,23 "Limitation on Pass-Through Charges – Identification of Subcontract Effort.

Question #3: May I submit two separate white papers for two separate thrust areas?

Answer #3: Submit separate white papers for each area you intend to respond to, if you plan on responding to multiple areas.

Question #4: What is the correct White Paper submission deadline? Is there a time of day the White Paper must be submitted?

Answer #4: White Papers should be submitted no later than August 27, 2014, 2:00 PM Eastern Standard Time.

Question #5: May non U.S. applicants apply?

Answer #5: Refer to Page 11 Section III entitled "Eligibility Information"

Question #6: In "Section IV-A. Application and Submission Process" (page 12, paragraph 8) of the solicitation, the text reads "The cover page should be labeled "White Paper for ONR 2013 Research Opportunity: Computational Methods for Decision Making." Is this still the case, or should the cover page read ONR 2014 instead?

Answer #6: For White Paper Submissions, the Cover Page should be labeled "White Paper for ONR 2014 Research Opportunity: Computational Methods for Decision Making".

Question #7: May non U.S. citizens apply in the areas of "Information Integration" and "Automated Image Understanding"?

Answer #7: Yes, but be careful with respect to proposed data needs or the use of surrogate data.

Question #8: If a proposal intends to describe an integrated concept of two topics, should one white paper describing an integrated concept be submitted or should two white papers each focusing on the individual topic be submitted?

Answer #8: Submitting a single white paper but noting that it crosses two domains is advised.

Question #9: If a proposal intends to describe an integrated concept of two topics, can the proposed budget be of the order of \$500K per year?

Answer #9: Budget guidance has been supplied, and not a hard and fast rule. It is advised to describe the idea and provide the best estimate of actual cost. Refer to Section II. Award Information, Item A. Amount and Period of Performance.

Question #10: Are listed White Paper Technical Content components "Operational Naval Concept", "Operational Utility Assessment Plan", and "Other Requirements" meant to be included as part of the 4 page White Paper (with the technical content), are they meant to be in addition to the 4 page White Paper (with the cover page and resume), or are they required only in the full proposal?

Answer #10: These components are meant to be included in addition to the four page White Paper, with more interest on Operational Utility Assessment Plan than the other two components.

Question #11: There are five main objectives under Automated Image Understanding thrust mentioned on Page 4 of the solicitation. There are also three objectives outlined on Page 6 of the solicitation under the same thrust. Which one of these are the main objectives you are looking to solve under this solicitation?

Answer #11: There are four "Thrusts" and each thrust has multiple sub-objectives. Objectives listed under the thrust and in other places in the BAA should be regarded by entities responding to the BAA as being of equal value to ONR.

Question #12: If a proposed solution addresses an objective for a particular thrust listed in one section of the BAA, should the solution also address a related research area of interest for the same thrust listed on another page?

Answer #12: No, it is not a requirement that proposed solutions to objectives listed in one location must align with proposed solutions for objectives that occur in another location.